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SMALLPOX IN GERMANY.

During the calendar year 1907, 17,220 cases of smallpox in the United States were reported to the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service. In 1908 there were 35,174 cases. During the year 1907, 74 deaths from smallpox were reported to the Bureau of the Census from the registration area and in 1908, 92 deaths. This shows a comparatively large number of cases, with a very low mortality rate.

For purposes of comparison the following has been abstracted from a report on the statistics of smallpox in Germany in 1907 published in the *Medizinal-statistische Mitteilungen aus dem Kaiserlichen Gesundheitsamte*, Band 13, Heft I:

CASES.

The number of smallpox cases occurring in Germany in the year 1907 amounted to 345 as against 256 in the year 1906. Of the cases in 1907, 63 died, giving a mortality rate of 17.97 per cent. A third of the cases occurred among foreigners, viz, 75 Russians, 18 Italians, 10 Austrians, 5 Swiss, 1 Frenchman, 1 Hollander, 1 Roumanian.

The distribution according to months was as follows:

January 14 cases, February 28, March 82, April 90, May 54, June 22, July 6, August 4, September 10, October 3, November 7, and in December 25 cases.

The distribution according to sex was: One hundred and eighty-six male; 159 female. Two hundred and seventy of the cases came under medical treatment. The average duration of illness was 31 days.

None of the cases occurred in persons who had previously had smallpox.

Of the 186 male patients 23 had been soldiers. Of these 4, whose period of military service dated back 21, 28, 37, and 50 years, were seriously ill. With the remaining 19 the course of the disease was mild.

Method of infection.—With regard to the method of infection, 36 cases were traced to foreign origin. Contagion among inmates of the same dwelling house was noted in 31 cases; in 13 cases among other house associates; among fellow-workmen in 6 cases. The number of cases caused by infection in hospitals amounted to 26, including 1 nurse, 1 attendant, 1 workwoman in the housekeeping department, and 1 woman whose child was a patient. In 2 cases infection was contracted from a smallpox corpse. Three physicians were attacked. Contact with infected rags, waste, and feathers was sup-

posed to have caused 13 cases. The remaining cases were distributed among various branches of occupation connected with attendance on the sick, and supplying the needs of the sick, and among traveling workmen and gypsies.

Imported infection.—Importation of smallpox occurred: (1) By small trading on the frontier; (2) by foreign emigrants in transit, and foreign workmen and their belongings; (3) by other travelers from foreign countries, by land and sea; (4) by importation from foreign countries in other ways.

(1) To small trading on the frontier were attributed 35 cases.

(2) To foreign emigration the following were attributed: At Bremen 6 Russian, 1 Hungarian, and 1 Roumanian emigrants were ill with smallpox on arrival and were taken to hospital. Two other cases were caused by these in patients sick with other diseases. A third broke out in a hospital inmate who was taken sick 8 days after leaving the hospital. At Hamburg there were 6 cases in emigrants.

Contact with foreign workmen caused cases as follows: In Allenstein an innkeeper and a member of his family contracted smallpox by contact with a Russian workman. In Posen 3 Russian children were attacked.

In Magdeburg a Russian workwoman was taken to hospital, where she gave smallpox to 3 persons. At Gattlesleben a Russian workman gave smallpox to a boy who was in the same hospital for treatment for lupus.

In Erfurt 2 Russian workwomen fell ill with smallpox. They had left home 22 and 25 days previously and contagion was believed to have been brought in their clothing.

In Minden an outbreak was caused in hospital by an artisan from Posen who had traveled by rail with Russian workmen and had broken out with symptoms of "hemorrhagic measles," of which he died in a few days. The case was undoubtedly one of severe smallpox, and it occasioned smallpox in a nursing sister and 5 other persons in the hospital.

In Cologne a Russian workman broke out with smallpox after 14 days' absence from Russia and was taken to hospital. Here a woman was attacked who gave the disease to her husband and children (2).

In Upper Bavaria a Russian workwoman, infected at her own home, was taken to hospital at Perlach, where she occasioned a fatal smallpox case and later a severe one.

In the province of Upper Silesia at Lindheim a cattle dealer died of smallpox. Infection was plainly due to contact with Russian workmen. This case was the starting point for 6 other cases at Lindheim and later 3 at Altenstadt and 1 at Ortenberg.

In Mecklenburg-Strelitz, at Loitz, the disease was communicated by a Russian workwoman to her 4 months' old child and to the attending physician. The latter had been revaccinated in 1870.

In Brunswick at the hospital at Helmstedt 3 inmates were attacked after a Russian workman had been admitted.

(3) *Travelers from foreign countries.*—Travel from abroad caused 29 cases. In Berlin a merchant lately returned from the East died after an illness of a week's duration. At Bromberg a ticket sorter fell ill apparently from infection contracted by handling tickets and baggage of Russian travelers. The disease was communicated to an infant child and from it to an adult. At Wilsche (district of

Bromberg) 2 persons living in the same house contracted smallpox from a family lately returned from Russia. The children belonging to the family showed marks of recent smallpox sores. The disease spread to 4 children in the vicinity who were brought in contact with the source of infection. At Bronowisce 6 children of families lately returned from Russia were attacked 16 days after leaving Russia. At Tscheschen an innkeeper lately returned from Warsaw fell ill 13 days after his return. The disease spread to his wife. At Schironowitz 2 gypsy children employed as cattle tenders, whose father was a comedian and practiced his calling along the Russian and Austrian frontiers, gave the disease to 4 other persons, and 1 of these cases infected a fifth. It was found that another member of the troupe of actors had smallpox. Cases at Stocken, in Hanover, were traced to infection from a railway car.

Maritime communication.—Four cases were due to this source of infection. The captain and ship's doctor of the steamship *Pennsylvania* were infected from an Italian emigrant child embarked at New York and were taken to hospital at Hamburg. The ship's doctor had been last vaccinated in 1890. A few days later the steward of the ship and a relative of the steward fell ill with smallpox.

(4) *Importation in other ways.*—To this source 34 cases were supposed to have been due. One case was apparently caused by infected mail from Galicia. It occurred in a workman at Rohnstock, district of Bolkelnain. At Beuthen a case was apparently due to infected feathers. At Bielefeld 2 cases were traced to infected cleaning cloths. The infection in 29 cases was traced to a rag-sorting establishment in Käferthal which handled rags of foreign as well as domestic origin. A shipment of rags from Käferthal to a paper factory at Neidenfels carried the infection and caused smallpox in 2 sorters. Through these cases 2 members of the families of the patients were infected. They were taken to hospital where an inmate became infected. Workmen of the Käferthal establishment were attacked by the disease and spread the infection to members of their families and others in Baden and Hesse. At Viernheim an innkeeper, whose daughter was employed in the sorting department, fell ill. From this focus 9 secondary cases developed.

DEATHS.

Of the 345 cases in 1907, 63 died as compared with 47, 30, 25, 20, and 25 deaths in the 5 preceding years and an average of 29 in the 10-year period from 1897 to 1906. The increase was due mainly to epidemics that prevailed in the city of Metz and vicinity, with 8 deaths in 1906 and 30 in 1907. The smallpox mortality was at the rate of 1.02 per 1,000,000 inhabitants during the year under consideration (1907), for the preceding year 0.77, and for the 10-year period (1897–1906) the average was 0.51. Among the 63 deceased in 1907 were 15 foreigners, corresponding to 23.81 per cent of the total number, 10 being Russians, 3 Luxemburgers, 1 an Italian, and 1 a Swiss.

The smallpox deaths in 1907 were distributed among 29 localities, of which 16 were in Prussia, 1 in Bavaria, 4 in Hesse, 1 each in Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Hamburg, and 6 in Alsace-Lorraine. In the city of Metz 24 persons died. According to months the deaths

were distributed as follows: January, 4; February, 2; March, 17; April, 14; May, 12; June and July, 1 each; August, 4; September, 0; October, 2; November, 1; December, 5 cases. Of the deaths 31 were of men, 32 of women.

None of the deceased had previously had smallpox. Of the deaths among men 2 were of old soldiers, whose term of military service dated back 50 and 28 years.

As regards the form of the disease in the fatal cases the confluent and hemorrhagic were the most frequent, in only 7 cases a discreet outbreak of postules being observed.

The following table shows the ages, the course of the disease, and the degree of protection by vaccination in the 345 cases:

Protection by vaccination.	Course of disease.	Age.										Total.
		1 year.	2 years.	3 to 10 years.	11 to 20 years.	21 to 30 years.	31 to 40 years.	41 to 50 years.	51 to 60 years.	Over 60 years.		
Unvaccinated.....	Died.....	14	2	4	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
	Serious to medium.....	1	1	4	7	4	.....	1	.....	.....	18
	Light.....	8	1	4	1	3	.....	.....	1	.....	18
Unknown.....	Died.....	.....	.....	1	1	3	1	3	4	1	14
	Serious to medium.....	.....	.....	4	3	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	9
	Light.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	4
Unsuccessfully vaccinated.....	Died.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	3
	Serious to medium.....	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	1	5
	Light.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	2
Vaccinated too late.....	Died.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
	Serious to medium.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
	Light.....	2	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Vaccinated once.....	Died.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	4	10
	Serious to medium.....	.....	.....	3	5	6	2	11	7	3	37
	Light.....	.....	.....	6	11	13	5	11	4	5	55
Revaccinated too late.....	Died.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	3
	Serious to medium.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
	Light.....	.....	.....	2	2	1	3	6	1	4	19
	Not stated.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2
Revaccinated.....	Died.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	5	1	.....	2	9
	Serious to medium.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	5	6	3	1	22
	Light.....	.....	.....	.....	9	17	19	19	13	5	82
	Not stated.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
		28	6	31	44	60	40	67	40	29	345	

COPY OF STATEMENT PREPARED AT A MEETING OF BRITISH AND COLONIAL DELEGATES, BERGEN, AU- GUST, 1909.

A report on the Second International Conference on Leprosy, held in Bergen, Norway, August 16 to 19, 1909, made by Passed Asst. Surg. Donald H. Currie, appeared in the Public Health Reports for September 17, 1909. The conference adopted certain resolutions, a copy of which will be found included in Doctor Currie's report.

The British and certain colonial delegates passed additional resolutions which have been printed as a part of the report of the British delegates.

These resolutions are as follows:

We, the undersigned delegates from the British and certain colonial governments unanimously approve the resolutions adopted by the